Methamphetamine: Brain and Behavior: Research Findings

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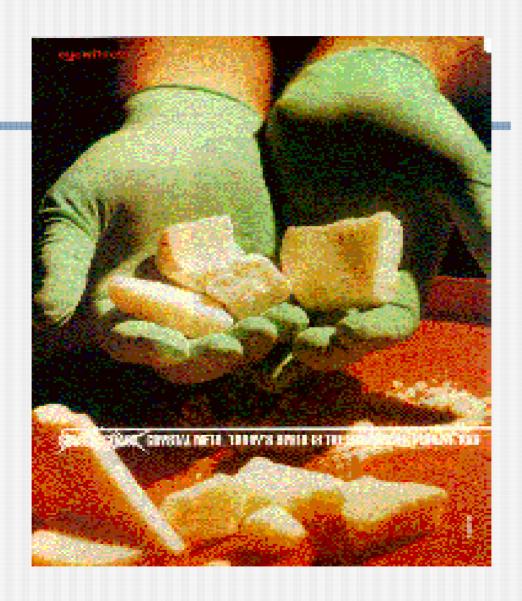
www.uclaisap.org

Missouri, May, 2004

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"Fire" is slang for Methamphetamine



Methamphetamines A Brief History

1887 Amphetamine developed

1919 Methamphetamine

1932 developed

Amphetamine & methamphetamine used as decongestant

Methamphetamines A Brief History

■ WW II

Extensive use by:

- RAF fighter pilots
- German Panzer troops
- Japanese workers
- Led to Kamikaze fever

Methamphetamines A Post-War Epidemic



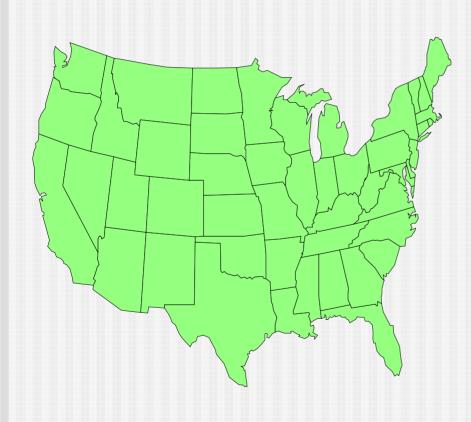
- FACTORS
- Large quantities
- Disorganization
- "Work pills"
- 500,000 addicts
- Reduced supply
- Increased heroin

Methamphetamines Speed in Sweden



- **FACTORS**
- Large supply
- 3% are users
- Preludin widespread
- Mostly oral use
- "Speed clinics"
- Clinics closed

Methamphetamines A Previous U.S. Epidemic

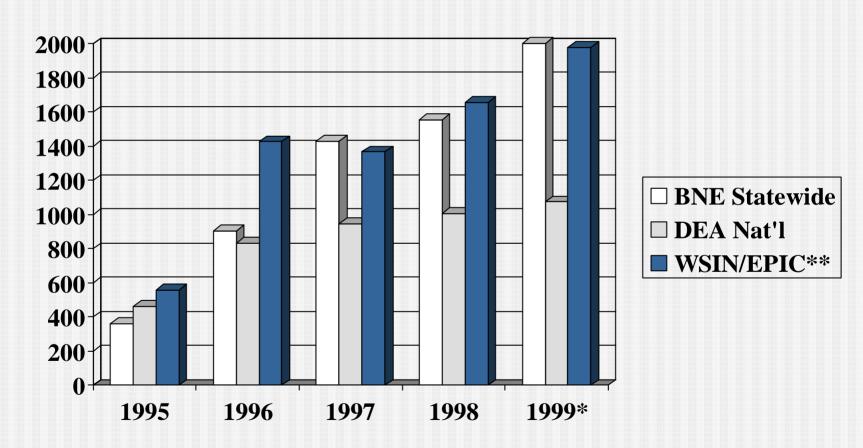


- FACTORS
- More legal speed
- Base is legal
- **■** Easy to make
- Large market
- Many IV users
- Law enforcement
- Rural areas

Methamphetamines Factors Related to Epidemic

- Over supply
- Opportunity to experience
- **■** Widespread knowledge
- A reliable market
- Non-parenteral methods
- Many "speed labs"

Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement Clandestine Lab Seizures



*DEA still calculating statistics **CA statewide seizures, state and local combined

SOURCE: www.stopdrugs.org/images/1999nationallabstat.jpg

ADAM SITES IN THE WEST

Percent of Male Arrestees testing positive for Methamphetamine

Albuquerque	5.1
Denver	3.0
Las Vegas	16.2
Los Angeles	8.9
Phoenix	16.6
Portland	19.8
Sacramento	27.6
Salt Lake City	24.8
San Diego	26.0
San Jose	24.4
Seattle	9.0
Spokane	20.1
Tucson	5.8





ADAM SITES IN THE WEST

Percent of Female Arrestees testing positive for Methamphetamine

Albuquerque	8.9
Denver	2.4
Las Vegas	17.9
Los Angeles	12.0
Phoenix	14.3
Portland	24.8
Sacramento	32.4
Salt Lake City	34.1
San Diego	36.3
San Jose	31.6
Seattle	9.5
Spokane	26.6
Tucson	9.6





MIDWEST ADAM SITES

Percent of Male Arrestees testing positive for Methamphetamine

Cleveland 0.0

Chicago 0.0

Des Moines 14.0

Detroit 0.0

Indianapolis 0.6

Minneapolis 1.1

Omaha 7.8





MIDWEST ADAM SITES

Percent of Female Arrestees testing positive for Methamphetamine

Cleveland	0.0
Chiasas	

Chicago _{0.0}

Des Moines 22.4

Detroit 0.0

Indianapolis 0.5

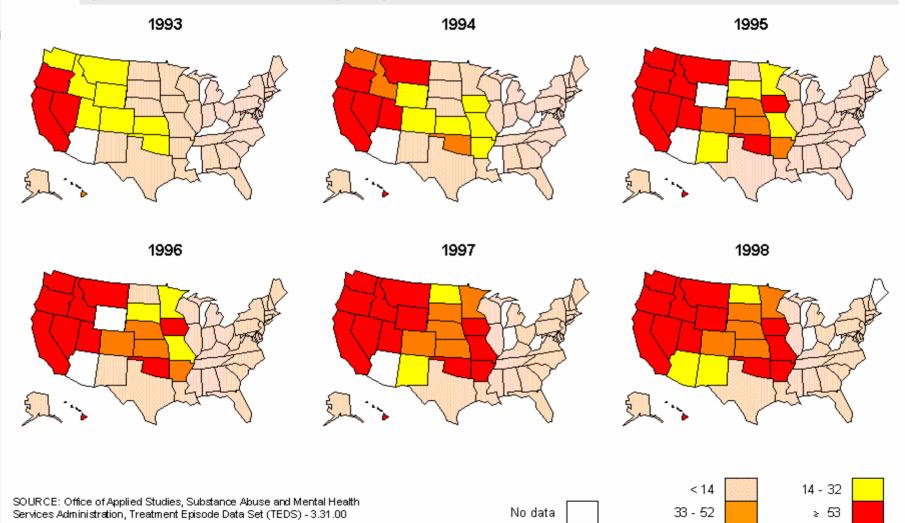
Minneapolis 2.5

Omaha 11.1





Methamphetamine admissions per 100,000 population



Toxic Effects of Methamphetamine

- Manufacturing
- Abuse
- Fetal exposure

Clandestine Meth Lab



Clandestine Meth Lab Equipment



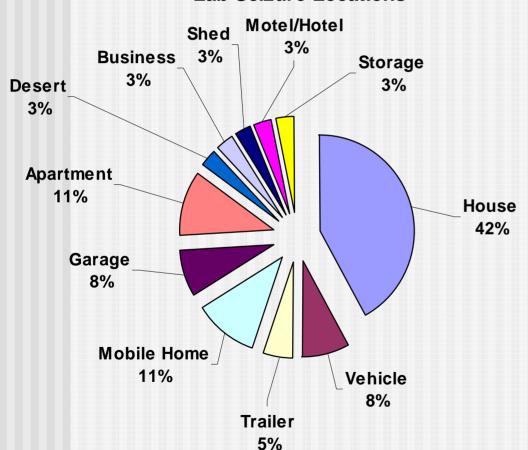
Meth Lab Seizures

- A small percentage of labs seized are labeled "Super Labs" and are capable of producing over 10 lbs per batch.
- Super Labs are operated by Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organizations (MNDTO's), and supply the majority of meth to the market.



Lab Seizure Locations

Lab Seizure Locations



Most common meth lab facilities were single-family houses, followed by apartments, mobile homes, vehicles in traffic stops, garages, trailers, motels/hotels, businesses, desert, and storage.

Stove top labs



- Small, stove top labs comprise the bulk of clandestine laboratory seizures.
- Cookers make small amounts using household chemicals and equipment.

Stove Top Labs

The active ingredient in making methamphetamine is ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, commonly found ir over the counter cold remedies.



Chemical Ingredients



- Trichloroethane (Gun Scrubber)Ether (Engine Starter)
- Toluene (Brake Cleaner)
- Methanol (Gasoline Additive)
- Gasoline
- Kerosene

Chemical Ingredients

- Lithium (Camera Batteries)
- Anhydrous Ammonia (Farm Fertilizer)
- Red Phosphorus (Matches)
- lodine (Veterinarian Products)
- Muriatic Acid
- Campfire Fuel
- Paint Thinner



Chemical Ingredients



- Acetone
- Sulfuric Acid (Drain Cleaner)
- Table Salt/Rock Salt
- Sodium Hydroxide (Lye)
- Sodium Metal (Can be made from Lye)
- Alcohol (Rubbing/Gasoline Additive)

Household Equipment

- Coffee Filters
- Rubber gloves
- Tempered Glass Baking Dishes
- Glass or Plastic Jugs
- Bottles
- Measuring Cup



Household Equipment



- Glass Jars
- Funnels
- Blender
- Plastic Jugs
- Tape
- Turkey Baster
- Clamps
- Hotplate
- Strainer

Household Equipment

- Rubber Tubing
- Paper Towels
- Gasoline Can
- Plastic Tote Box
- Aluminum Foil
- Propane Cylinder (2) lb)
- Books/internet (Meth lab Instruction)



Toxicity

- Detrimental effects of meth labs reach further than increase in drug supply.
- For each quantity of methamphetamine manufactured, five times that amount is produced toxic wastes.
- Due to illegal nature of meth production, these toxic wastes are not disposed of lawfully (including heavy metals and flammable chemicals like mercury and phosphorus that should be transported to hazardous waste facilities.

Toxicity

- Instead they are dumped into streams, rivers, fields, and sewage systems, and buried illegally, allowing the toxins to seep into groundwater.
- This contaminates the environment and ground water, putting communities at risk.

Toxicity

 Gases created during the manufacturing process permeate walls and carpets of houses and building making them uninhabitable.

The cost of cleaning these sites ranges from \$2,000 to \$4,000 taxpayer dollars.



- Fires
- Explosions
- Toxic gases
- Toxic wastes

- Cooking
 - hydrochloric acid
 - mixing / heating red phosphorous
 - straining sodium hydroxide
- **■** Extraction
 - solvents
 - conversion to base
 - extracting
- Salting
 - drying

- Manufacturers
- Law enforcement officers
- Bystanders



- Air (immediate vicinity)
- Water supply
- Soil

Organ Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Central nervous system toxicity
- Cardiovascular toxicity
- Pulmonary toxicity
- Renal toxicity
- Hepatic toxicity

CNS Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Acute psychosis
- Chronic psychosis
- Strokes
- Seizures

Cardiovascular Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Arrhythmic sudden death
- Myocardial infarction
- Cardiomyopathy

Pulmonary Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Acute pulmonary congestion
- Chronic obstructive lung disease

Renal / Hepatic Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Renal failure
- Hepatic failure

Fetal Toxicity from MA Abuse

- Early effects:fetal deathsmall for gestational age
- Late effects:learning disabilitypoor social adjustment

- Children who live in and around the area of the meth lab become exposed to the drug and its toxic precursors and byproducts.
- 80-90% of children found in homes where there are meth labs test positive for exposure to meth. Some are as young as 19 months old.

- Children can test positive for methamphetamine by:
 - Having inhaled fumes during the manufacturing process
 - Coming into direct contact with the drug
 - Through second-hand smoke.

- Hundreds of children are neglected by parents who are meth cooks. Nationally, over 20% of the seized meth labs in 2002 had children present.
- In Washington State, the counties of Grays Harbor, Spokane, Thurston, and Klickitat all reported that children were found at half the labs seized in 2002. In Lewis County, children were found at 60-70 %, and in Clark-Skamania, 35%.

- In 2002, a total of 142 children were present at lab seizures in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.
- Most children reported as being present during a seizure were school age.

- Social workers now accompany law enforcement during lab seizures with children involved.
 - Parents are often charged with seconddegree criminal mistreatment, along with manufacturing charges.
 - Allowing children to live in a toxic environment where additional risks of explosion and fire are high is considered to be neglect at best to child abuse.

- Children have a greater skin surface area per pound than do adults, making them more susceptible to environmental contaminants.
- They also eat, drink, and breathe faster, and are more likely to put hands and other objects in their mouths.

Inquisitive nature of young children makes them more prone to accidentally consuming toxic chemicals that are sometimes kept in unmarked containers in the refrigerator.



- Children are uniquely susceptible to neurological contamination in the environment because their brains are still developing.
- Lead poisoning is an example of what the child is exposed to in these meth labs. A small amount of lead that may not affect an adult can cause neurological damage in a child.

What *Does* Child Welfare Field Need in Context of Meth & Labs?

- Support from Auxiliary Agencies and Departments
- Policies that Protect their Safety
- Policies that Appropriately Safeguard Children
- Resources to Support Meth-dependent parents in treatment & recovery in the context of reunification efforts
- Training for Caregivers and Treatment Staff to implement best practices for parents & kids

Drug Endangered Children: Who Should be Involved?

- CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (24/7)
- MEDICAL & PUBLIC HEALTH PERSONNEL (24/7)
- LAW ENFORCEMENT (24/7) (If Lab)
- DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (24/7) (If Lab)
- (CORE DEC RESPONSE TEAM MEMBERS)

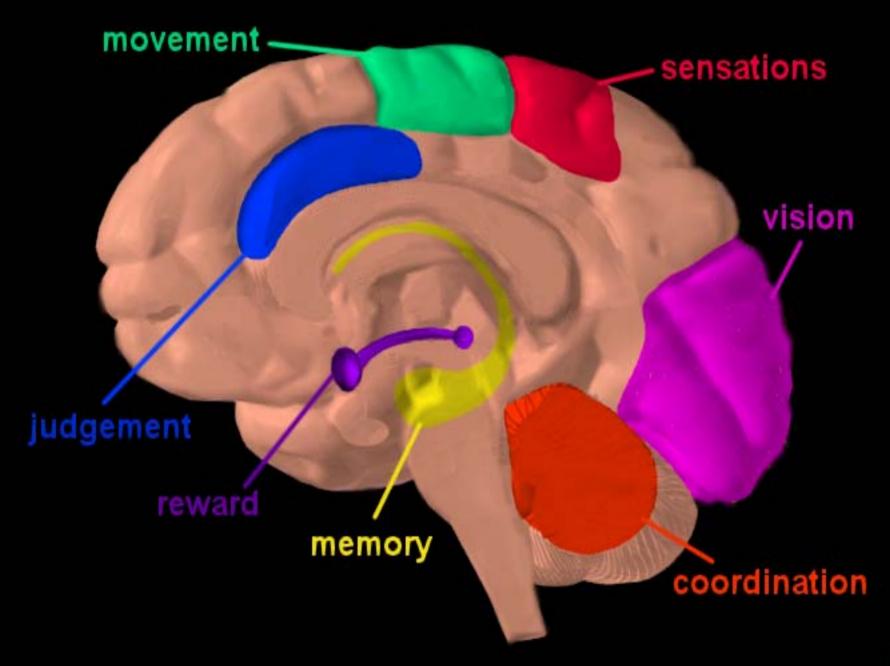
ADDITIONAL INVOLVEMENT FROM:

- MENTAL HEALTH & THERAPEUTIC PERSONNEL
- CHILD CARE PROVIDERS: FOSTER FAMILIES
- DRUG & ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROVIDERS
- ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM PERSONNEL (If Lab)

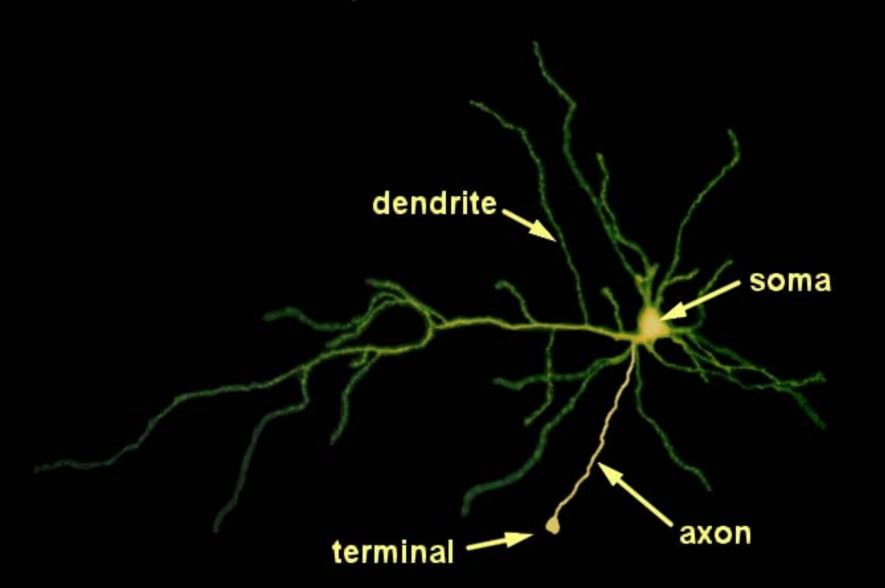
Drug Endangered Children Response Teams

Why the Team Concept Is Needed and Works...

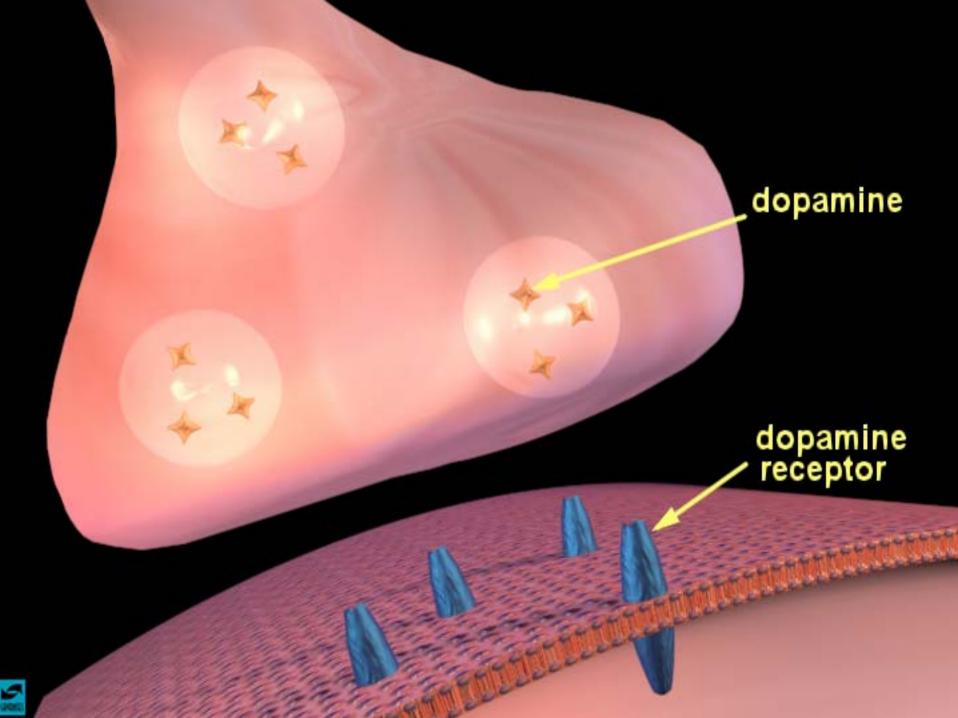
- Multi-Need Families; Multi-Need Individuals
- Multi-Disciplinary Approach
- Spirit of Cooperation
- Sharing of Information
- Case Coordination for Best Family and Individual Outcome

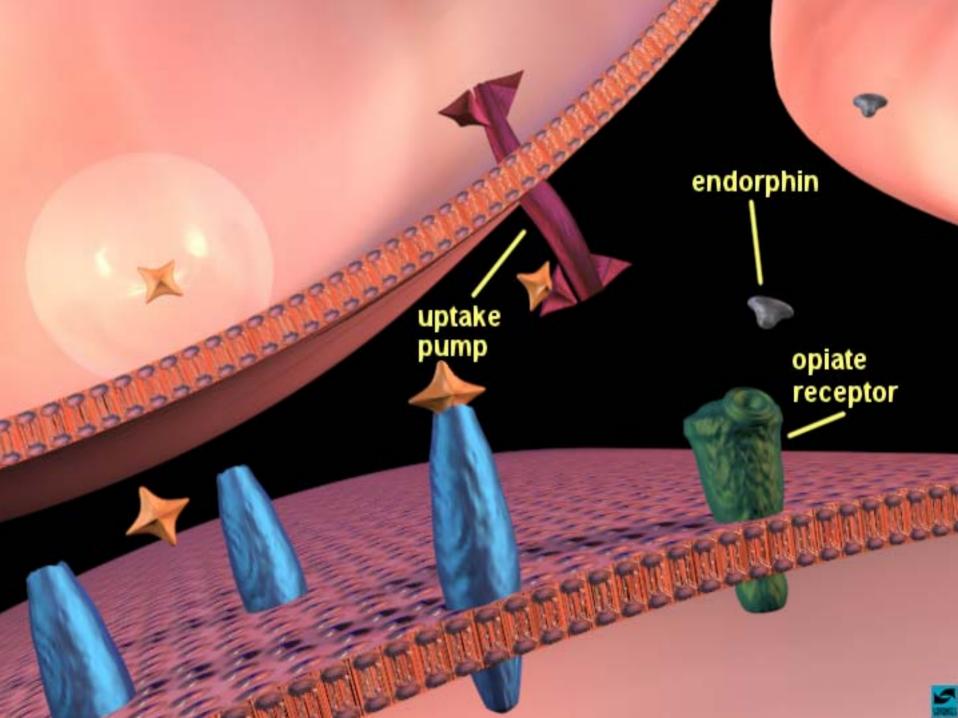


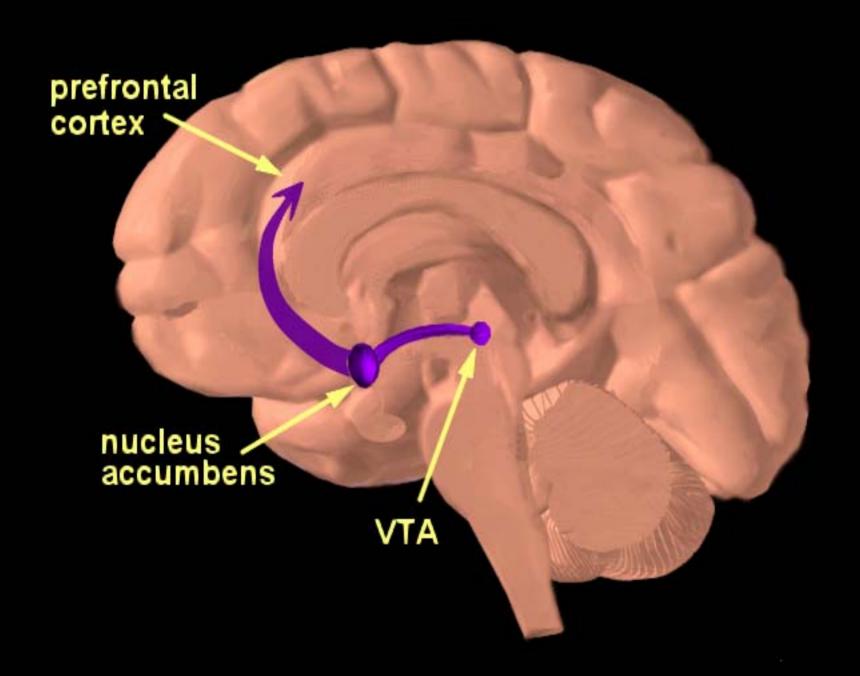




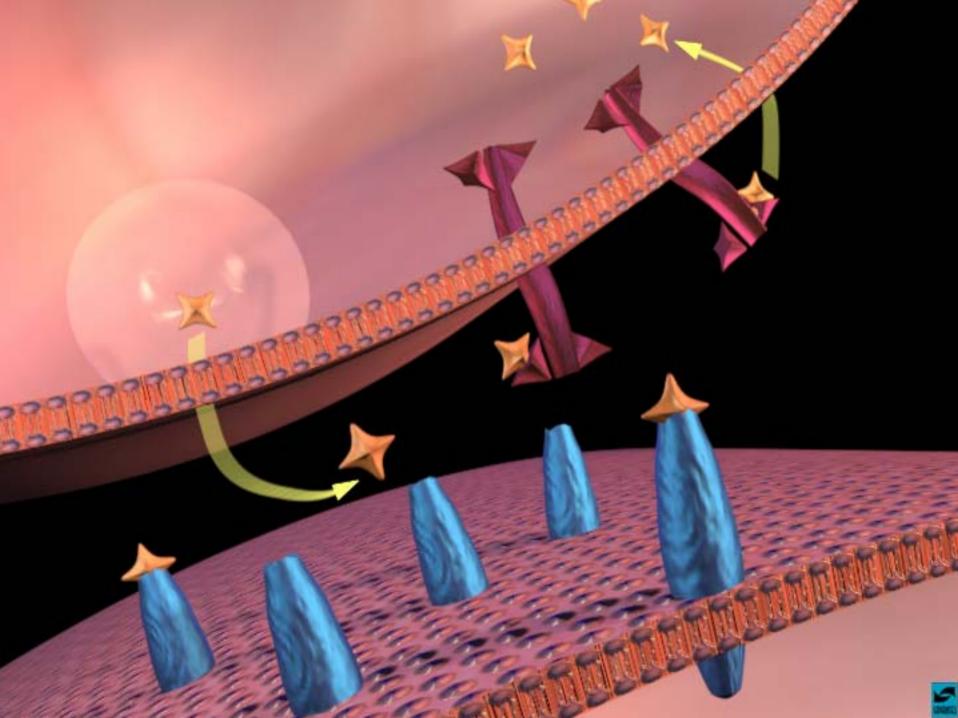


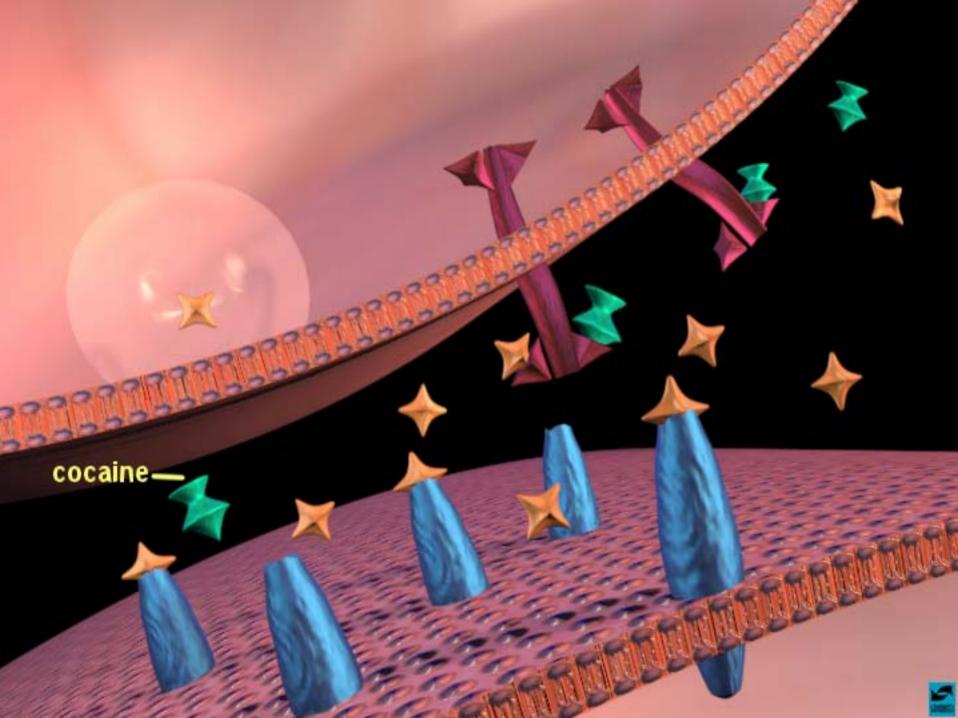












Striatal FDOPA Activity

Pre-Amphetamine/Control









Post-Chronic Amphetamine (10 days)

4 weeks









6 months









1 year









2 years



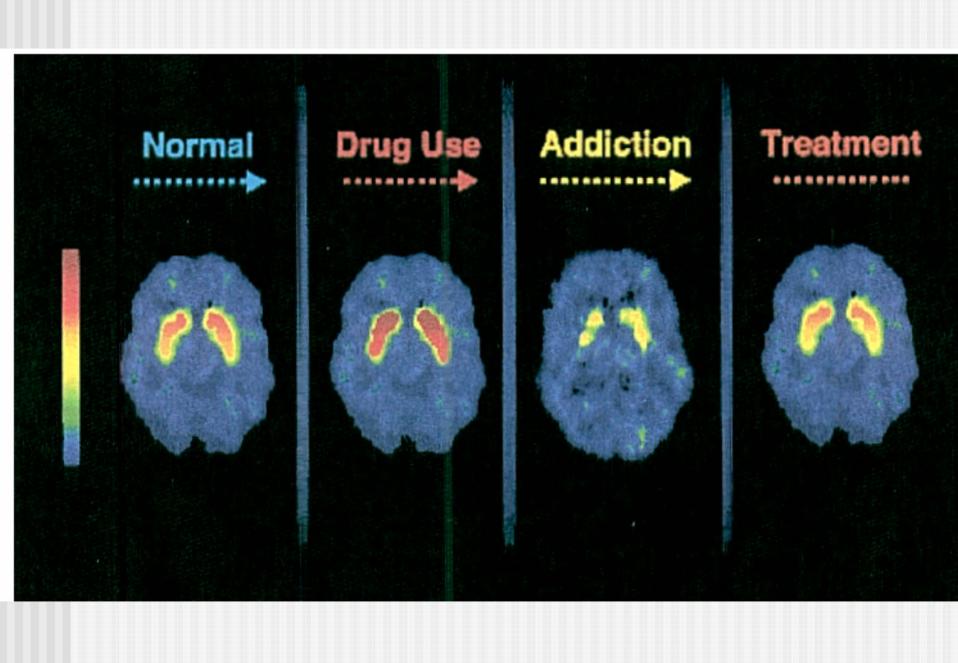






Superior

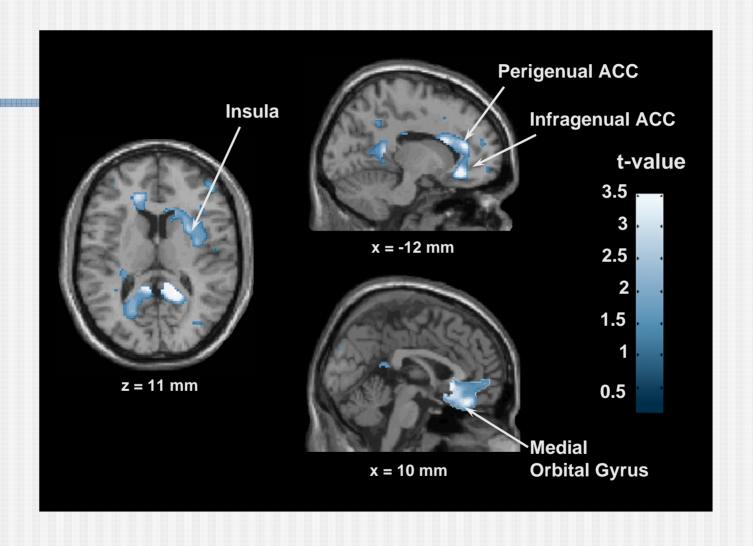
Inferior

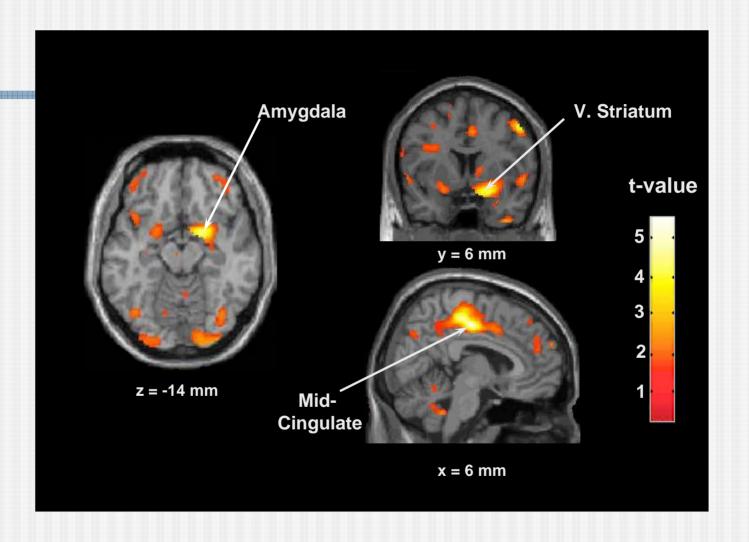


Brain metabolism in newly abstinent methamphetamine users

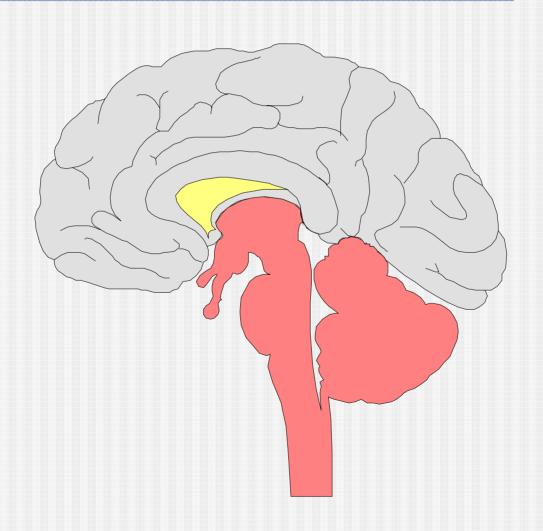
- Edythe London
- Walter Ling
- Richard Rawson

UCLA School of Medicine



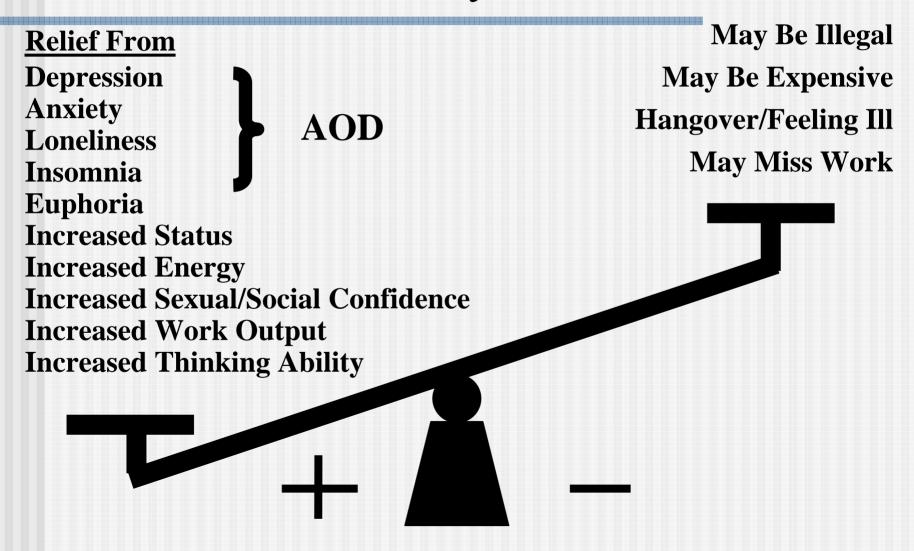


Triggers and Cravings *Human Brain*



Cognitive Process During Addiction

Introductory Phase



Conditioning Process During Addiction

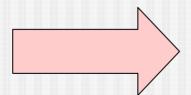
Introductory Phase

Strength of Conditioned Connection

Triggers

- Parties
- Special Occasions

Mild



Responses

- •Pleasant Thoughts about AOD
- •No Physiological Response
- •Infrequent Use

Development of Obsessive Thinking Introductory Phase



Development of Craving Response

Introductory Phase

Entering Using Site

Use of AODs



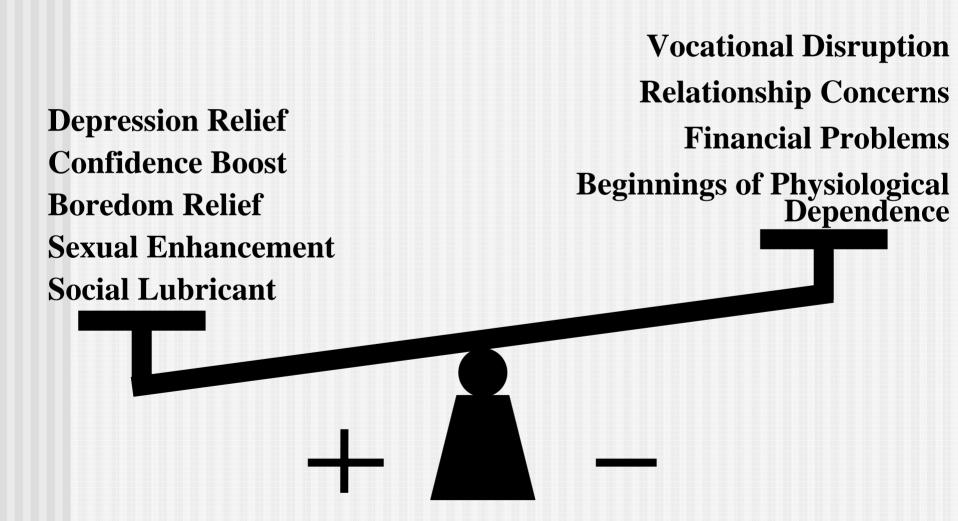


AOD Effects

- **1** Heart/Pulse Rate
- **1** Respiration
- **1** Adrenaline
- **1** Energy
- **Taste**

Cognitive Process During Addiction

Maintenance Phase



Conditioning Process During Addiction

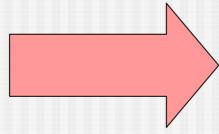
Maintenance Phase

Strength of Conditioned Connection

Triggers

- Parties
- Friday Nights
- Friends
- Concerts
- •Alcohol
- •"Good Times"
- Sexual Situations

Moderate



Responses

- Thoughts of AOD
- •Eager Anticipation of AOD Use
- •Mild Physiological Arousal
- •Cravings Occur as Use Approaches
- Occasional Use

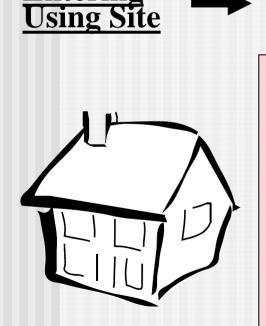
Development of Obsessive Thinking

Maintenance Phase



Development of Craving Response

Maintenance Phase



Entering

Physiological Response



Use of AODs



AOD Effects

- † Heart
- † Breathing
- † Adrenaline Effects
- † Energy Taste



‡ Heart

Blood
 Pressure

1 Energy

Cognitive Process During Addiction

Disenchantment Phase

Social Currency Nose Bleeds Occasional Euphoria Infections Relief From Lethargy Relationship Disruption Relief From Stress Family Distress Impending Job Loss

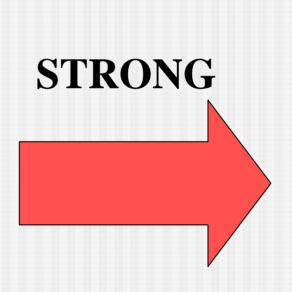
Conditioning Process During Addiction

Disenchantment Phase

Strength of Conditioned Connection

Triggers

- Weekends
- All Friends
- Stress
- •Boredom
- Anxiety
- After Work
- Loneliness

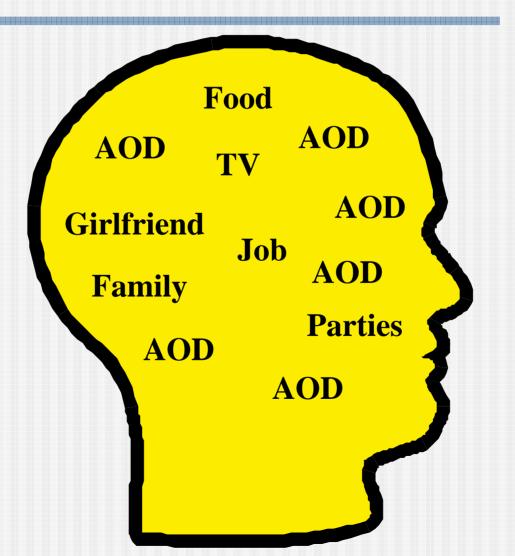


Responses

- •Continual Thoughts of AOD
- •Strong Physiological Arousal
- Psychological Dependency
- Strong Cravings
- •Frequent Use

Development of Obsessive Thinking

Disenchantment Phase



Development of Craving Response Disenchantment Phase

Thinking of Using

Mild Physiological Response

- † Heart Rate
- † Breathing Rate
- **†** Energy
- **† Adrenaline Effects**

Entering Using Site



AOD Effects

Powerful Physiological Response

- † Heart Rate
- † Breathing Rate
- † Energy
- **† Adrenaline Effects**

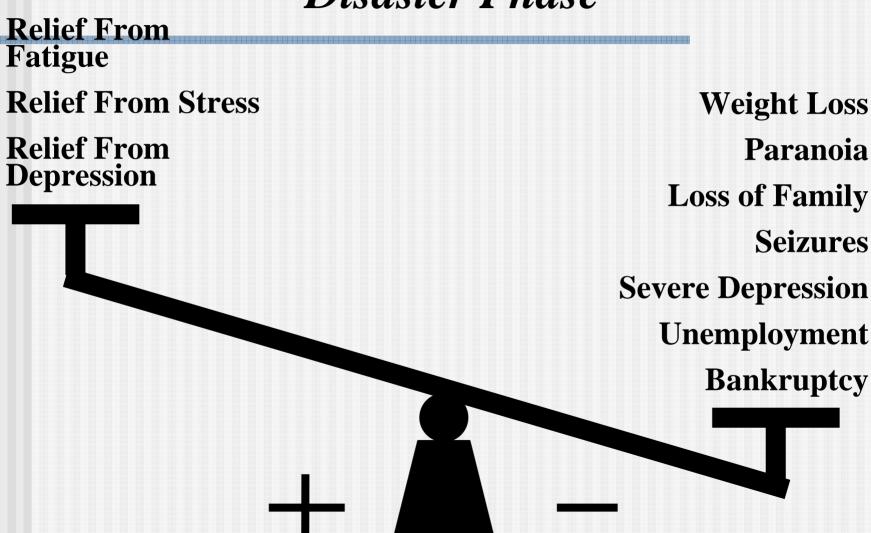
Use of AODs



- **‡** Heart
- **1 Blood Pressure**
- **1** Energy

Cognitive Process During Addiction

Disaster Phase



Conditioning Process During Addiction

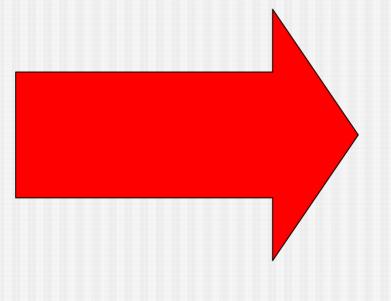
Disaster Phase

Strength of Conditioned Connection

OVERPOWERING

Triggers

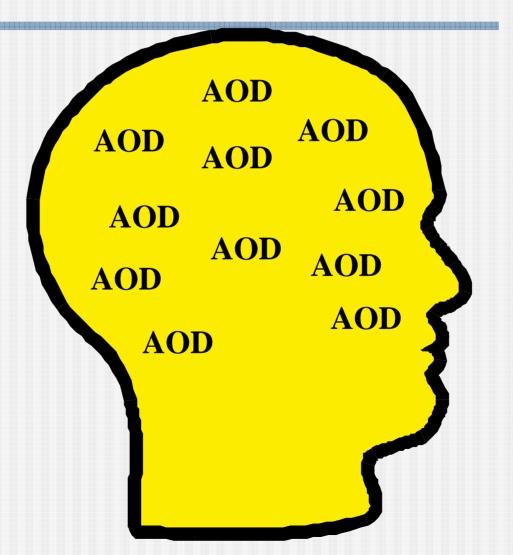
- Any Emotion
- Day
- •Night
- •Work
- •Non-Work



Responses

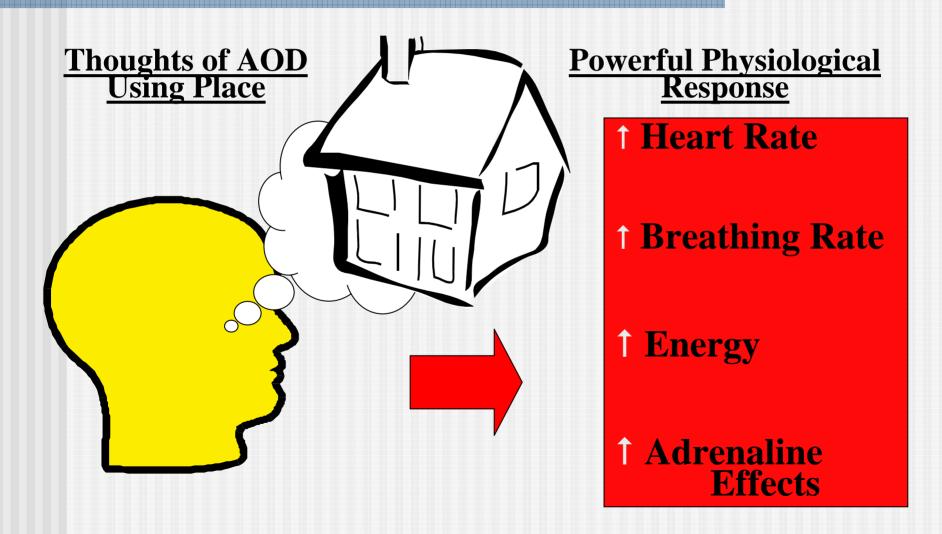
- •Obsessive Thoughts About AOD
- •Powerful Autonomic Response
- Powerful Physiological Dependence
- Automatic Use

Development of Obsessive Thinking Disaster Phase



Development of Craving Response

Disaster Phase

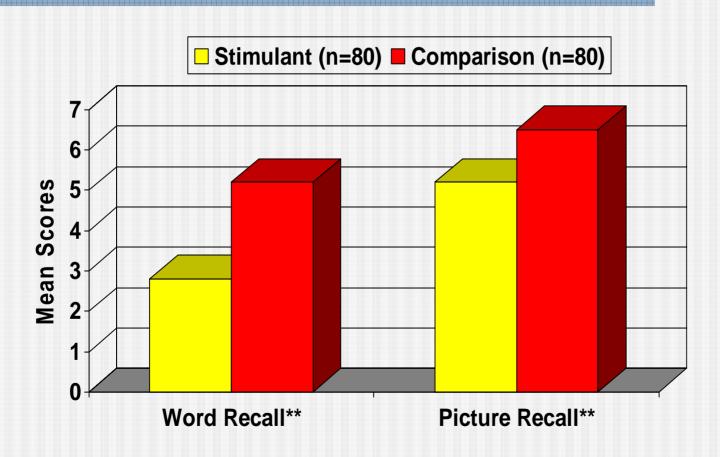


Roadmap for Recovery

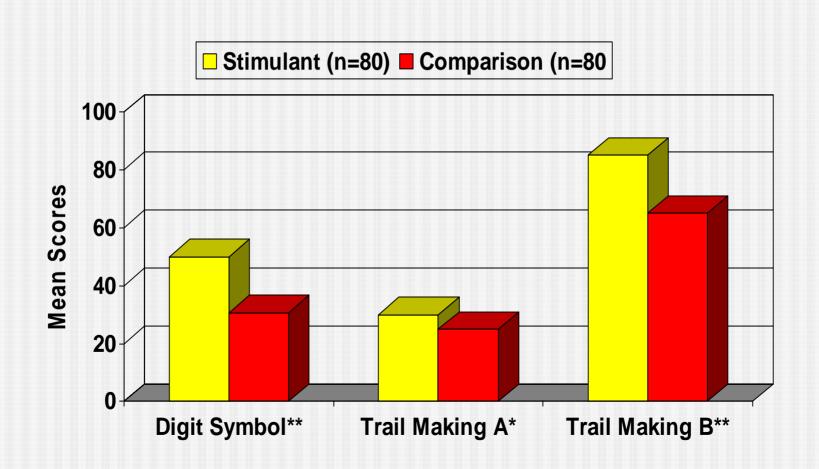


Protracted Abstinence

Memory Difference between Stimulant and Comparison Groups



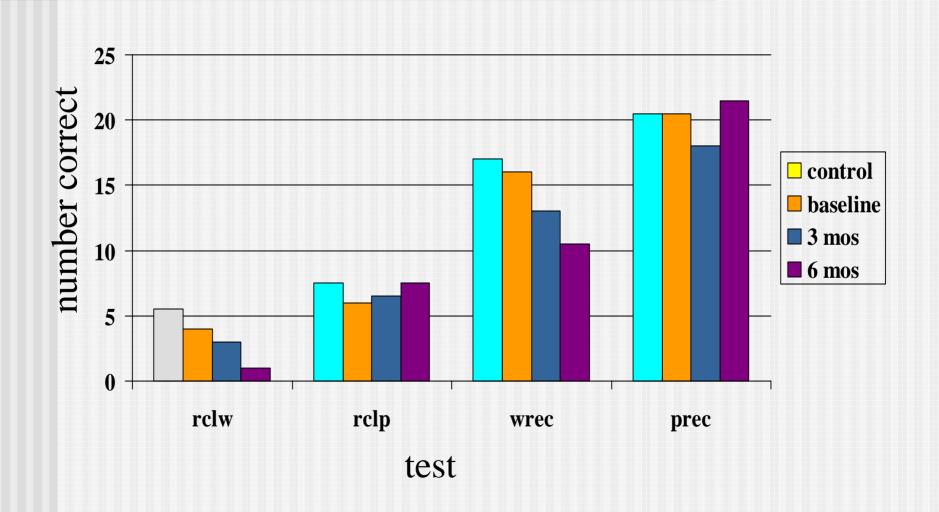
Differences between Stimulant and Comparison Groups on tests requiring perceptual speed



Summary

- Actively using MA addicts demonstrate impairments in:
 - the ability to manipulate information
 - the ability to make inferences
 - the ability to ignore irrelevant information
 - the ability to learn
 - the ability to recall material

Longitudinal Memory Performance



Summary (cont.)

- Some deficits are resolved after a period of 12-weeks of abstinence:
 - The ability to ignore irrelevant information
 - The ability to manipulate information

Summary (cont.)

- Some abilities get worse in the early periods of abstinence:
 - Recall and recognition both show more impairment at 12 weeks of nonuse
 - than is evident in current users

Methamphetamine Acute Physical Effects

- Increases

Heart rate

Blood pressure

Pupil size

time

Respiration

Sensory acuity

Energy

-Decreases

Appetite

Sleep

Reaction

Methamphetamine Acute Psychological Effects

- Increases
 - Confidence
 - Alertness
 - Mood
 - Sex drive
 - Energy
 - **■** Talkativeness

- Decreases
 - Boredom
 - Loneliness
 - **■** Timidity



Methamphetamine Chronic Physical Effects

- Tremor
- Weakness
- Dry mouth
- Weight loss
- Cough
- Sinus infection

- Sweating
- Burned lips; sore nose
- Oily skin/complexion
- Headaches
- Diarrhea
- Anorexia

Methamphetamine Chronic Psychological Effects

- Confusion
- Concentration
- Hallucinations
- Fatigue
- Memory loss
- Insomnia

- Irritability
- Paranoia
- Panic reactions
- Depression
- Anger
- Psychosis

Methamphetamine Psychiatric Consequences

- Paranoid reactions
- Permanent memory loss
- Depressive reactions
- Hallucinations
- Psychotic reactions
- Panic disorders
- Rapid addiction

Typical Day of MA Use

Amount -- 1 gram

Route -- Smoke

First Use -- "When I wake up"

Other uses -- "Every few hours"

Amount each use -- 1/5 gram

Typical Day of MA Use

Amount -- 3/4 gram

Route -- Shoot

First Use -- "When I get up"

Other uses -- "Noon and Afternoon"

Amount each use -- 1/4 gram

MA Treatment Issues

- Acute MA Overdose
- Acute MA Psychosis
- MA "Withdrawal"
- Initiating MA Abstinence
- MA Relapse Prevention
- Protracted Cognitive Impairment and Symptoms of Paranoia

Acute MA Overdose

- Slowing of Cardiac Conduction
- Ventricular Irritability
- Hypertensive Episode
- Hyperpyrexic Episode
- CNS Seizures and Anoxia

Acute MA Psychosis

- Extreme Paranoid Ideation
- Well Formed Delusions
- Hypersensitivity to Environmental Stimuli
- Stereotyped Behavior "Tweaking"
- Panic, Extreme Fearfulness
- High Potential for Violence

Treatment of MA Psychosis

- Typical ER Protocol for MA Psychosis
 - Haloperidol 5mg
 - Clonazepam 1 mg
 - Cogentin 1 mg
 - Quiet, Dimly Lit Room
 - **■** Restraints

MA "Withdrawal"

- Depression
- Fatigue
- Anxiety
- Anergia

- Paranoia
- Cognitive Impairment
- Agitation
- Confusion

■ Duration: 2 Days - 2 Weeks

Treatment of MA "Withdrawal"

- Hospitalization/Residential Supervision if:
 - Danger to Self or Others, or, so Cognitively Impaired as to be Incapable of Safely Traveling to and from Clinic.
 - **■** Otherwise Intensive Outpatient Treatment

Treatment of MA "Withdrawal"

- **■** Intensive Outpatient Treatment
 - No Pharmacotherapy Available
 - **■** Positive, Reassuring Context
 - **■** Directive, Behavioral Intervention
 - Educate Regarding Time Course of Symptom Remission
 - Recommend Sleep and Nutrition
 - Low Stimulation
 - Acknowledge Paranoia, Depression

Initiating MA Abstinence

- Key Clinical Issues
 - Depression
 - **■** Cognitive Impairment
 - Continuing Paranoia
 - Anhedonia
 - Behavioral/Functional Impairment
 - Hypersexuality
 - Conditioned Cues
 - Irritability/Violence

Initiating MA Abstinence

- Key Elements of Treatment
 - **■** Structure
 - Information in Understandable Form
 - **■** Family Support
 - **■** Positive Reinforcement
 - 12-Step Participation
- No Pharmacologic Agent Currently Available

Treatment of MA Disorders

- Traditional Treatments
 - **■** Therapeutic Community
 - Minnesota Model
 - Outpatient Counseling
 - Psychotherapy

Treatment of MA Disorders

- **State of Empirical Evidence**
 - No Information on TC or "Minnesota Model" Approaches
 - No Pharmacotherapy with Demonstrated Efficacy
 - Results of Cocaine Treatment Research
 Extrapolated to MA Treatment

A Multi-Site Comparison of Psychosocial Approaches for the Treatment of Methamphetamine Dependence

Richard A. Rawson, Ph.D. and The Methamphetamine Treatment Project Corporate Authors*

Addiction (2004, In Press)

Project Goals:

- To study the clinical effectiveness of the Matrix Model
- To compare the effectiveness of the Matrix model to other locally available outpatient treatments
- To establish the cost and cost effectiveness of the Matrix model compared to other outpatient treatments
- To explore the replicability of the Matrix model and challenges involved in technology transfer

Matrix Model

An Integrated, Empirically-based, Manualized Treatment Program

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Family and Group Therapy

Motivational Interviewing

12- Step Involvement

Psychoeducation

Social Support

Manuals in Psychosocial Treatment



- Reduce therapist differences
- Ensure uniform set of services
- Can more easily be evaluated
- Enhance training capabilities
- Facilitate research to practice

- Program components based upon scientific literature on promotion of behavior change.
- Program elements and schedule selected based on empirical support in literature and application.
- Program focus is on current behavior change in the present and not underlying "causes" or presumed "psychopathology".
- Matrix "treatment" is a process of "coaching", educating, supporting and reinforcing positive behavior change.

- Non-judgemental, non-confrontational relationship between therapist and patient creates positive bond which promotes program participation.
 - Therapist as a "coach"
- Positive reinforcement used extensively to promote treatment engagement and retention.
 - Verbal praise, group support and encouragement other incentives and reinforcers.

- Accurate, understandable, scientific information used to educate patient and family members
 - Effects of drugs and alcohol
 - Addiction as a "brain disease"
 - Critical issues in "recovering" from addiction

- Behavioral strategies used to promote cessation of drug use and behavior change
 - Scheduling time to create "structure"
 - Educating and reinforcing abstinence from all drugs and alcohol
 - Promoting and reinforcing participation in nondrug-related activities

- Cognitive-Behavioral strategies used to promote cessation of drug use and prevention of relapse.
 - Teaching the avoidance of "high risk" situations
 - Educating about "triggers" and "craving"
 - Training in "thought stopping" technique
 - Teaching about the "abstinence violation effect"
 - Reinforcing application of principles with verbal praise by therapist and peers

- Involvement of family members to support recovery.
- Encourage participation in self-help meetings
- Urine testing to monitor drug use and reinforce abstinence
- Social support activities to maintain abstinence

Elements of the Matrix Model



- Engagement/Retention
- Structure
- Information
- Relapse Prevention
- Family Involvement
- Self Help Involvement
- Urinalysis/Breath Testing

The Matrix Model

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Early Recovery Skills	Family/education	Early Recovery Skills
Weeks1-4	Weeks 1-12	Weeks1-4
Relapse Prevention	Social Support	Relapse Prevention
Weeks 1-16	Weeks 13-16	Weeks 1-16

Urine or breath alcohol tests once per week, weeks 1-16

Table 1. Sites participating in the MTP (from Herrell et al, 2000)

Coordinating Center	Principal Investigators	Directors	
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Grantee / Site*	Principal Investigator	Lead Evaluator	
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Table 4. MTP Participant Characteristics (taken from baseline ASI)

Characteristic	Summary	
% Male	45	
Age (Yrs.), mean (sd)	32.8 (8.0)	
Ethnicity (%)		
Caucasian	60	
African-American	2	
American Indian	3	
Asian/Pacific Islander	17	
Hispanic	18	
Educational Attainment Level (yrs.), mean (sd)	12.2 (1.7)	
% Employed	69	
% Married (and not separated)	16	
Overall Substance Use Patterns-Lifetime (yrs.), mean (sd)		
Methamphetamine	7.54 (6)	
Alcohol	7.6 (8.5)	
Cocaine	1.75 (3.5)	
Cannabis	7.15 (8)	
Overall Substance Use Patterns—Days in Past 30, mean (sd)		
Methamphetamine	11.53 (9.6)	
Alcohol	4.72 (7.3)	
Cocaine	0.21 (1)	
Cannabis	4.38 (8.3)	
Preferred Route of Administration of MA (%)		
Oral	0	
Nasal	11	
Smoked	65	
IV- injection	24	

Table 7. Comparison of retention between groups within sites, with Matrix truncated to the length of TAU at each site

Site	TAU length (wks.)	Log-rank	Chi-square	р
Site 1	8	-20.07	33.17	<0.0001
Site 2	12	-9.49	4.98	0.026
Site 3	12	-8.39	3.68	0.055
Site 4	16	1.64	0.26	0.610
Site 5	12	-22.30	28.74	<0.0001
Site 6	12	-17.46	17.87	<0.0001
Site 7	16	-5.01	3.34	0.067
Site 8	12	-10.59	7.99	0.005

Figure 3. Participant retention throughout treatment, by site and treatment group

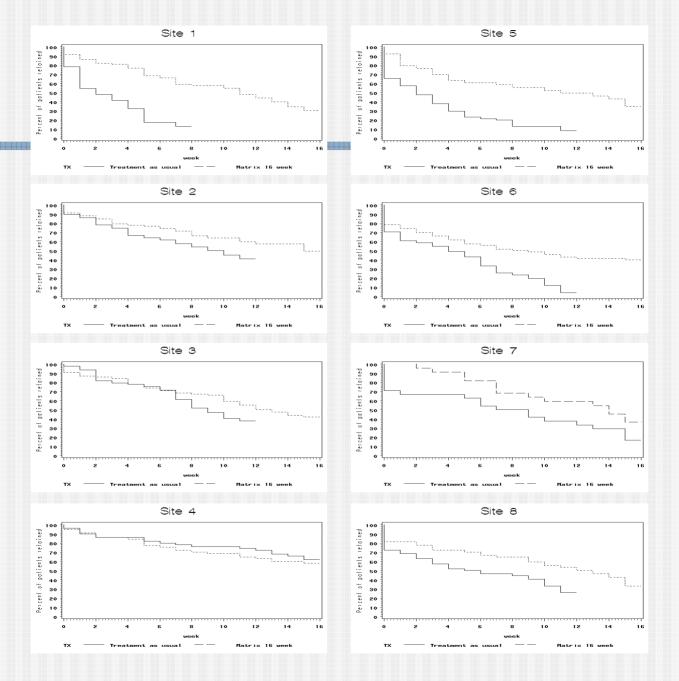


Figure 4. Percent completing treatment, by group

	Matrix 16	TAU
Completer	40.85	34.16
Not Completer	59.15	65.84

$$x^2=4.68, p=0.031$$

Figure 6. Participant self-report of MA use (number of days during the past 30) at enrollment, discharge, and 6-month follow-up, by treatment condition

